AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) A method comprising:

    requesting an InfiniBand connectivity configuration;

    receiving a response regarding whether the requested configuration can be

    provided; and

    attempting to establish the requested connectivity configuration if the response to

    the request is affirmative.

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity

    configuration is not contained in [[the]] a specification established for the

    InfiniBand architecture.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity

    configuration is comprised of a plurality of links.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the requested connectivity

    configuration is provided using a standard InfiniBand backplane connector.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said request for a connectivity

    configuration is made by an InfiniBand module to an InfiniBand chassis

    management entity.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said request for a connectivity

    configuration is made through an InfiniBand management link.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein said request for a connectivity configuration is written to a first management link configuration register and said response to said request is written to a second management link configuration register.

8. (Previously amended) A method comprising:

receiving a connectivity configuration request associated with an InfiniBand connector, the configuration request representing an expanded InfiniBand connector configuration including information indicative of one or more desired links to be established through the InfiniBand connector and assigning one or more physical lanes of the InfiniBand connector to each of the one or more desired links;

providing a response to the connectivity configuration request indicating whether the requested expanded InfiniBand connector configuration can be provided; and

configuring the InfiniBand connector in accordance with said connectivity configuration request.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said connectivity configuration request is made by an InfiniBand module and is received by an InfiniBand chassis management entity.

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said expanded InfiniBand connector configuration is not contained in [[the]] a specification established for the InfiniBand architecture.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said expanded InfiniBand connector

configuration is comprised of a plurality of links.

12.   (Original) A method comprising:

an InfiniBand management link operating to enable the establishment of an

InfiniBand connectivity configuration, wherein said management link:

records a request for a connectivity configuration made by an InfiniBand

module;

allows an InfiniBand chassis to obtain said request for a connectivity

configuration;

records a response from said InfiniBand chassis to said request for a

connectivity configuration; and

allows said InfiniBand module to obtain said response to said request for a

connectivity configuration.

13.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said request for a

connectivity configuration requests an expanded configuration that is not

contained in [[the]] a specification established for the InfiniBand architecture.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said request for a connectivity

configuration is written to a first management link configuration register and said

response is written to a second management link configuration register.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the requested connectivity

configuration is comprised of a plurality of links.

16.   (Currently amended) A network apparatus comprising:

an InfiniBand connector;

an InfiniBand module to make a request for an expanded connectivity

configuration for the InfiniBand connector; and

a chassis management entity coupled to said InfiniBand module, the chassis

management entity to receive the request for an expanded connectivity

configuration for the InfiniBand connector and to provide a response

regarding whether the requested configuration can be provided.

17.   (Currently amended) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said requested

connectivity configuration is not contained in [[the]] a specification established

for the InfiniBand architecture.

18.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein the requested connectivity

configuration is other than:

a single link comprised of a connection to the first pin of a plurality of pins on the

InfiniBand connector;

a single link comprised of a connection to the first four pins of the plurality of

pins on the InfiniBand connector; or

a single link comprised of a connection to the first twelve pins of the plurality of

pins on the InfiniBand connector.

19.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said InfiniBand module is

operable to establish the requested connectivity configuration if the response to

said connectivity request is affirmative.

20.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein said requested

connectivity configuration is comprised of a plurality of links that are provided

simultaneously through said InfiniBand connector.

21.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein the InfiniBand connector

is a standard InfiniBand backplane connector.

22.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 16, wherein the said request for a

connectivity configuration is made through an InfiniBand management link.

23.   (Original) The network apparatus of claim 21, wherein said request for a

connectivity configuration is written to a first management link configuration

register and said response to said request is written to a second management link

configuration register.

24.   (Original) A machine readable medium having stored thereon data representing

sequences of instructions which, when executed by a processor, cause the

processor to perform operations comprising:

requesting an expanded InfiniBand connectivity configuration;

receiving a response regarding whether the requested configuration can be

        provided; and

establishing the requested configuration.

25.   (Currently amended) The medium of claim 24 wherein the requested connectivity

configuration is not contained in [[the]] a specification established for the

InfiniBand architecture.

26.   (Original) The medium of claim 24 wherein the requested connectivity

configuration is comprised of a plurality of links.